

Purpose

In accordance with Sections 27-12-21 and 41-6-21, UCA, the Executive Director of the Utah Department of Transportation shall designate those state highways located in canyon areas of the State of Utah that may not be safely traversed by the public and/or which would tend to create hazardous conditions or hamper road maintenance activities of the Department, unless the vehicle or motor vehicle traversing said highway is adequately equipped with certain safety devices as described hereafter.

Policy

The Division of Traffic and Safety shall maintain and annually publish a listing of those state highways requiring certain safety devices. This listing shall be distributed to UDOT Region/District Offices, the UDOT Community Relations Office, the Utah Highway Patrol, county offices, and local law enforcement officials. When any designated highway is so restricted, no vehicle shall be allowed or permitted the use of said highway, during the period between November 1 and March 31, unless:

- a. Said vehicle is equipped with one of the following traction aids:
 - (1) Steel link chains or have chains in possession; or
 - (2) Mounted snow tires (it is UDOT's interpretation that any tire which is labeled "M & S" on the sidewall is considered to be an acceptable snow tire); or
 - (3) Elastomeric tire chains (designed for use with radial tires).

Note: 4-wheel drive vehicles must have a minimum of two mounted snow tires to meet the requirements of this policy.

Note: Radial tires without snow tread do not meet the requirements of this policy.

- b. Personnel of the Utah Department of Transportation and/or the Utah Highway Patrol may permit vehicles not equipped with the traction aids defined in the preceding paragraph to travel a designated state highway. However, this determination can only be made by said personnel who are on location and who can ascertain that the vehicle may do so without endangering the public safety or creating a hazard to, or interference with, highway maintenance operations.

Procedures

Determination Where Traction Aids Are Required

UDOT 06C-2.1

Responsibility: Region Director/District Engineer

Actions

1. After coordination with the local Highway Patrol Office, will submit a request to the Division of Traffic and Safety for a specific location to have traction aids required as outlined in this policy. A Traffic Engineering Order (TEO) shall be issued by the Division of Traffic and Safety for all approved locations.
2. Shall coordinate with the local Utah Highway Patrol Office to establish working criteria for the adequate enforcement of this policy.

Responsibility: Engineer for Traffic and Safety

3. Shall request the Utah Highway Patrol, or designated local law enforcement agency, to enforce this policy.
4. Shall notify the UDOT Region/District Offices, the UDOT Community Relations Office, the Utah Highway Patrol, county offices, and local law enforcement officials of state highways that are restricted, as outlined above.